

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy shown to Applicants' representative, Josh C. Snider, in the series of telephone interviews concluding on November 23, 2004. Independent claims 170, 178, and 183 were discussed with respect to the previously cited Hisatake reference (U.S. 5,434,690), and agreement was reached that the proposed claim amendments discussed in the interview were allowable over all of the previously cited prior art references. Accordingly, independent claims 170, 178, and 183 are amended herein according to the amendments proposed in the telephone interview, and Applicants submit that these claims, and all of their dependent claims, are therefore in immediate condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Dependent claim 172 has also been amended here for grammatical consistency with independent claim 170, from which it depends.

New claim 188 has also been added to the present Application, to recite still another combination of features fully supported by the Specification to the present Application, and consistent with the subject matter of the group of claims restricted by the Examiner to this Divisional Application. Applicants submit that new claim 188 is in immediate condition for allowance, because claim 188 is identical to claim no. 8 of United States Patent No. 6,567,144 to Kim et al., which was filed almost one year later than the parent Application to the present Divisional Application.

Applicants further notify the Examiner that the primary Examiner listed on U.S. Patent No. 6,567,144 is the same Robert H. Kim who is the supervisor of the present

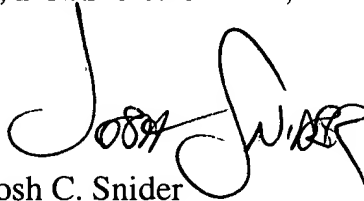
Examiner. Because the present Examiner's supervisor has already made the legal determination that claim 8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,567,144 is patentable, Applicants submit that this same claim in the present Application must also be legally presumed to be patentable.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application, including claims 170-188, is in condition for allowance, which is again respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney should he find that any further issues related to patentability exist.

Respectfully submitted,

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